



NSC/S

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DIST 29 SEPTEMBER 1973

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1. AS OF LATE SEPTEMBER 1973 [REDACTED] THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) CONSIDERED THE MILITARY JUNTA TO BE LESS UNIFIED THAN IT HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY. THEY BELIEVED THAT GENERAL

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GUSTAVO . E I G H CONTINUES TO BE THE STRONG MAN OF THE JUNTA, AND THAT HE IS A VIGOROUS CHAMPION OF A HARD-LINE MILITARY GOVERNMENT, FAVORING RETENTION OF POWER BY THE MILITARY FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD AND FAVORING DIRECTIONS WHICH THE PDC VIEWS AS BEING ALONG THE LINES OF A CORPORATE STATE. THE PDC LEADERS ALSO CONSIDER THAT JUNTA PRESIDENT GENERAL AUGUSTO P I N O C H E T AND JUNTA MEMBER GENERAL CESAR M E N D O Z A FAVOR A SOFT-LINE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT ADMIRAL JOSE M E R I N O FLUCTUATES BETWEEN SUPPORTING THESE TWO SEPARATE PHILOSOPHIES.

2. GENERAL MENDOZA HAS SENT A MESSAGE THROUGH A MEDIUM-LEVEL PDC MEMBER REQUESTING A MEETING WITH PATRICIO A Y L W I N, PDC PRESIDENT. GENERAL PINOCHET ALSO HAS INDICATED TO THE PDC THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH AYLWIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. ON SEPTEMBER 1973

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THAT THE SUSPENSION OF ALL POLITICAL ACTIVITIES WOULD OFFICIALLY BE DECLARED IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND HE SAID THAT ALL POLITICAL PARTIES WOULD HAVE TO

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DISMANTLE AND CLOSE THEIR PARTY OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

~~SECRET~~ COMMENT: THE PDC IS IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSFERRING PROPERTIES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE PARTY TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PDC MEMBERS OR SYMPATHIZERS. PARTY LEADERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FATE OF RADIO BALMACEDA IN SANTIAGO, WHICH IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE PDC AND IS WIDELY KNOWN TO BE OWNED BY THE PARTY. HOWEVER, MANY OF THE OTHER PDC MEDIA AND PROPAGANDA INSTRUMENTS HAVE BEEN IN THE NAMES OF PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS SINCE WELL BEFORE THE 11 SEPTEMBER COUP. THESE INCLUDE "LA PRENSA," THE PARTY NEWSPAPER, AND "RADIO COOPERATIVA," THE PDC'S OTHER MAJOR RADIO STATION IN SANTIAGO.)

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